esearcher alleges cover-up

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JFK's death probe called 'botched'

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — A private researcher says idence pried loose from a luctant government proves vestigators botched the in- ury into President John F. ennedy's assassination and en conspired to cover up eir mishandling of the case.

The researcher, Harold eisberg, offered to go be re a congressional commit e to establish that "a long st of people" committed erjury in an effort to make eople believe Lee Harvey swald acted alone when he ot Kennedy in Dallas on ov. 22, 1963.

He challenged these people whom he did not name to "go head to head" with m under oath so that "the uth, so long suppressed, ill at last come out."

DENIAL

Meanwhile, Sen. Edward Kennedy says he knows no new facts that would lead him to believe Oswald was part of a conspiracy in his brother's assassination.

In an interview in Time magazine's current issue, Kennedy said he was not entirely pleased with the Warren Commission's investigation of Kennedy's death but endorses its conclusion Oswald acted alone.

"There were things that should have been done differently. There were mistakes made," Kennedy said. "But I know of no facts that have been brought to light which would call for a reassessment of the conclusion."

The Kennedy interview is part of a five-page reappraisal of the Warren Commission's work in which Time generally refutes rumors that have cropped up concerning the circumstances surrounding Kennedy's death.

"Not a single fact linking Oswald with anyone else in a plot has become known," Time says. "Only in the unlikely event that congressional investigations provide evidence of a conspiracy would there be any purpose in reopening the entire assassination inquiry."

NEW LOOK

Sen. Richard S. Schweiker, R-PA., who is taking a new look at the Kennedy assassination, said it may be decided within a month whether to hold public hearings, but it is too soon to say whether Weisberg would testify.

"The government never really intended to investigate the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, and it never did," Weisberg said in his sixth book on the murder published this week. "Indeed, there never was what reasonable men call an inquiry, a decent pretense even of an investigation."

At a news conference called to elaborate on the book, Weisberg said the entire investigation — from moments after Kennedy was killed until publication of the Warren Commission report nearly a year later — was "tainted by corruption and perjury."

He said the Warren Commission, appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson, merely rubber-stamped the preconceived notion of FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover that Oswald was the lone assassin. He said evidence hinting otherwise was ignored, suppressed or destroyed.

LONG PROBE

Earlier, in an interview at his Frederick, Md., home, Weisberg said, "I have no idea who killed him (Kennedy). But I know Oswald could not have."

Weisberg has spent the last 11 years investigating the assassination, amassing a large volume of documents and pictures — often after bitter court battles with federal agencies. Many of them are reprinted in his new book, "Post Mortem," which Weisberg had printed privately after commercial publishers rejected it.

"The cover-up really did involve literally hundreds of people — probably 100 FBI agents alone," he said.

Asked why, if there were such a massive conspiracy, no one has broken silence in 12 years, he replied: "What would have happened if one had opened his yap? He would have lost his job and never gotten another one."

The Warren Commission, he said, held a "living terror of Hoover" and realized they were so "boxed in" a full investigation would be fruitless.

Cover-up alleged in JFK probe

AR 11/16/75 K.A.F.

United Press International

WASHINGTON — A private researcher said Saturday that government evidence proves investigators botched the inquiry into President Kennedy's assassination and then conspired to cover up their mishandling of the case.

Harold Weisberg offered to go before a congressional committee to establish that "a long list of people" committed perjury in an effort to make the public believe Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone when he shot Kennedy in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

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